


As to the presentation of existing 4:3 video programming on a 16:9 display, for those who choose such a system, the receivers will adjust the picture to fill the screen in a manner most pleasing to the consumer. This may mean black bars on the edges of the screen, automatic cropping of the top and bottom or even the use of "pan and scan" to fill the screen according to the cinematographer's artistic vision and the broadcaster's decisions on how to present the material. And for the consumers who choose to purchase less costly 4:3 receivers, or use set-top convertors with their existing sets, similar options will be available to best fill the screens to their preference.

As you are well aware, the issues raised in this proceeding are many and complex, and I regret I am unable to do them all justice in a short letter. In addition to those at Apple and the ASC with whom you agree on this issue. I would encourage you to get more information from Mr. Stan Baron, President of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers at 914-761-1100 or 212-664-7557. Stan has been integrally involved in these matters for many years and will be able to present a well balanced perspective on all issues of concern to you. If you would care to discuss this further with me, please feel free to call my office at 202-418-2600

Rest assured that this proceeding, far from being over, has in many respects just begun. The Commission welcomes and encourages you to actively participate in this process and to share your concerns so that we may make the best decision in the interest of all Americans.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Saul T. Shapiro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Saul" being more prominent and the last name "Shapiro" following in a similar style.

Saul T. Shapiro
Assistant Bureau Chief
for Technology Policy

JOHNS+GORMAN FILMS

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March 12, 1996

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY


Mr. Reed Hundt
Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt,

I am writing to you because I oppose the ACATS proposal. I am concerned that the 'grand alliance' plan which was formulated and submitted to you has had almost no input from motion picture and television directors and cinematographers. The plan was formulated by engineers and representatives from large corporations without the creators of the images having a say in the way those images are delivered to the public. I feel this will denigrate the quality of TV Broadcasting.

They are also proposing an 'interlaced' display system proven to be archaic and inferior. I, along with the ASC and Apple Computers, support a 'progressive scan' system, using the proven technology of computer screens. The next generation television system should be compatible with computers and show the whole image as we composed it. The public deserves it.

Sincerely,



Jeff Gorman
Director